

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 284

By Hensley

A RESOLUTION to commemorate “Emergency Medical Services Week” in Tennessee.

WHEREAS, the Tennessee Emergency Medical Services (EMS) System, comprised of over 100 individual EMS systems operating throughout the State, has since 1972 represented one-third of our crucial 911 emergency response infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, every city, county, and town across the State of Tennessee has access to this essential life-saving service 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year; and

WHEREAS, the Tennessee EMS system and the thousands of people it employs continue to play a vital and life-saving role for the people of Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, approximately two-thirds of non-police 911 calls are calls requesting an ambulance; and

WHEREAS, in addition to responding to 911 calls placed from homes and businesses, the Tennessee EMS system covers over 100,000 miles of Tennessee roads; and

WHEREAS, EMS ambulances annually transport patients over 1,000,000 times in their medical need, responding to both medical and traumatic calls throughout the State of Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, timely, efficient, and appropriate emergency medical care is one of the most significant factors in determining a patient’s outcome for a great many medical issues in addition to trauma, notably including acute cardiovascular disease, the nation’s number one killer of adults; and

WHEREAS, properly maintained ambulances outfitted with advanced medical equipment are necessary to provide optimal emergency medical care on scene and en route to the hospital; and

WHEREAS, advanced levels of training are necessary for all practitioners of emergency medicine, with higher licensure levels representing greater lengths of training and a greater range of advanced medical procedures; and

WHEREAS, despite these many challenges they face as an equal third of the State's emergency response infrastructure, the brave and talented men and women of the Tennessee EMS system continue to save lives and improve medical outcomes for patients across the State on a daily basis; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, that we hereby join the citizens of our great State as they celebrate "Emergency Medical Services Week" in Tennessee, May 19-25, 2013.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.